

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 /032 R

DRAFTED BY IO:GBHELMAN:MR
APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
IO:GADALLEY
EUR/CE/ELAUDERDALE

-----071434 011057Z /15

R 010141Z FAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 052215

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:UNHRC, GW

SUBJECT: FRG CANDIDACY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

1. FRG MINISTER BAZING CALLED ON DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY (IO) HELMAN FEBRUARY 28 TO ASK FOR US SUPPORT OF FRG CANDIDACY FOR SEAT ON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION BEGINNING 1979. BAZING EXPLAINED THAT FRG HAS A CONTINUING STRONG INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS MATTERS AND ATTACHES SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO ITS VOCATION IN THIS FIELD. HE SAID THAT HE IS AWARE OF AT LEAST FOUR CANDIDATES (UK, ITALY, CANADA, NETHERLANDS) FOR THE TWO WEO SEATS, AND THERE MAY WELL BE OTHERS. THE FRG FULLY EXPECTS THE UK, AS A PERMANENT MEMBER, TO HAVE AN UNBREAKABLE GRIP ON ONE OF THE TWO VACANCIES. CONSEQUENTLY, FRG SEES ITSELF COMPETING WITH THREE AND PERHAPS MORE GOVERNMENTS FOR THE OTHER SEAT. - -

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2. IN RESPONSE, HELMAN WELCOMED FRG PRESENTATION. HE EXPLAINED TRADITIONAL US POLICY OF WITHHOLDING ITS SUPPORT FOR ANY CANDIDATE UNTIL REGIONAL GROUP ENDORSEMENT HAS BEEN RECEIVED. AT THAT POINT, HELMAN SAID HE IS CONFIDENT THAT US WOULD HAPPILY SUPPORT

THE FRG AND LOOK FORWARD TO CLOSE COLLABORATION

IN THE HRC ITSELF. BAZING SAID THAT HE FULLY UNDERSTOOD
US POSITION, WISDOM OF WHICH IS DEMONSTRATED BY THE
DIFFICULTY OF CHOOSING BETWEEN FRIENDS AND ALLIES SUCH
AS FRG, ITALY, CANADA AND PERHAPS OTHERS.

VANCE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEES, ELECTION CANDIDATES, HUMAN RIGHTS, MEMBERSHIP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE052215
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GBHELMAN:MR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780093-0747
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803123/aaaafivp.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: d9655ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3165119
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 970818
Subject: FRG CANDIDACY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
TAGS: SHUM, GE, SHUM, UNHRC
To: BONN GENEVA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d9655ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014